



Congressman Steve King

Tour Information

1432 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-4426



Thank you for contacting our office regarding Congressional tour information. Our office has taken the liberty of compiling the following information for your use. Visitors who are interested in additional tour information, will find valuable information located at:
<http://www.house.gov/house/Visitor.html>.

Our office's tour policies and recommendations are outlined throughout this document.

****Please examine the following pages for all information regarding Congressional tour reservations.****

White House Tours

Tours of the White House, available to **parties of 10 or more people**, regardless of age or type of group, are arranged through one's Member of Congress. Tour requests for residents of Iowa's 5th District are submitted through Congressman King's office by contacting Brandon at (202) 225-4426, or brandon.renz@mail.house.gov. These requests will be accepted no less than 2 weeks, in advance. It is recommended these self-guided group tours, available from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Tuesday through Saturday, are scheduled approximately 3-4 months before the requested date. The White House Visitors Bureau does not confirm reservations until one month prior, so notice of confirmation will not come until that time.

NOTE: Due to the high demand for White House tours and limited availability of tickets, tour access remains limited. Respectively, advance notice is recommended, as tickets are distributed on a first-come-first-served basis. Tours should not be considered reserved until the White House Visitor's Bureau has confirmed the date, time, and security information.

Those who find themselves unable to obtain a White House tour are welcome to visit the White House Visitor's Center, which is open to the public. The Center is located at the southeast corner of 15th and E Streets and is open seven days a week from 7:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. It features many aspects of the White House, including its architecture, furnishings, first families, social events, and relations with the press and world leaders, as well as a thirty-minute video. Allow between 20 minutes to one hour to explore the exhibits. The White House Historical Association also sponsors a sales area. Please note that restrooms are available, but food service is not.

Instructions for Groups Touring the White House

1. Please submit security information to the Congressman's office at 2-4 weeks before your scheduled White House tour. This includes:
 - a. A designated group contact person, who must submit their day, evening, **and** local (*i.e. cell phone or hotel number while in DC*)
 - b. Date(s) Requested
 - c. Group Name
 - d. Age Range/Grade (*i.e. ages 12-13 yrs. Old/7th grade*) or Adult
 - e. Total Number in Group, specifically including Number of Students and Number of Chaperones, if applicable.
2. Changes to the security forms can be made no less than one week prior to the tour date.
3. Please note that no more than one chaperone per 10 students (middle and high school aged students) and no more than one chaperone per 5 students (elementary aged students) may accompany the group.
4. Groups should enter the White House complex from the south side of East Executive Avenue near the Southeast Gate. Groups arriving by bus should instruct their driver to drop them off at the southwest corner of 15th and E Streets, where they will be met by a uniformed Park Service Ranger.
5. Groups should arrive 15 minutes before their scheduled tour time. Late arrivals may not be accommodated.
6. **All guests 15 years of age or older will be required to present photo identification with information exactly matching the name previously submitted for clearance. Individuals whose identification does not exactly match the name or data cleared for entry may be denied admittance.**
7. Prohibited items include, but are not limited to, the following: handbags, book bags, backpacks, purses, food and beverages of any kind, tobacco products, personal grooming items (*e.g. makeup, hair brushes or combs, lip and/or hand lotions, etc.*), strollers, any pointed objects (*pens, knitting needles, etc.*) aerosol containers, cameras, video recorders or any type of recording device, guns, ammunition, fireworks, electric stun guns, mace, martial arts weapons/devices, or knives of any size.

The U.S. Secret Service reserves the right to prohibit any other personal items. Neither the White House nor the U.S. Secret Service will provide coat or package check facilities.

AS A GENERAL RULE: BRING NO PERSONAL ITEMS WHATSOEVER ON YOUR TOUR!! THIS INCLUDES PURSES, CAMERAS, LIQUIDS, OR OTHER ITEMS LISTED UNDER BULLET POINT 7 ABOVE!!

8. All persons and items entering the White House will be screened through a security process. Individuals may be requested to consent to an interview or additional security procedures before they are admitted to the White House complex.

White House Visitor Center

All tours are significantly enhanced if visitors stop by the White House Visitor Center located at the southeast corner of 15th and E Streets, before or after their tour. The Center is open seven days a week from 7:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. and features many aspects of the White House, including its architecture, furnishings, first families, social events, and relations with the press and world leaders, as well as a thirty-minute video. Allow between 20 minutes to one hour to explore the exhibits. The White House Historical Association also sponsors a sales area. Please note that restrooms are available, but food service is not.

Mobility-Impaired / Wheelchairs

Visitors scheduled for tours who require the loan of a wheelchair should notify the officer at the Visitors Entrance upon arrival. Unfortunately, reservations are not possible. Visitors in wheelchairs, or with other mobility disabilities, use the same Visitors Entrance and are escorted by ramp from the entrance level to the Ground floor, and by the elevator from the Ground floor to the State floor.

Hearing/Visually-Impaired

Tours for hearing and/or visually impaired groups of ten or more may be requested through one's Member of Congress. The Visitors Office TDD (telephone device for the deaf) is 202-456-2121.

General Tour Information

All visitors should call the 24-hour Visitors Office information line at 202-456-7041 to determine if any last minute changes have been made in the tour schedule.

Parking

The closest Metrorail stations to the White House are Federal Triangle (blue and orange lines), Metro Center (blue, orange, and red lines) and McPherson Square (blue and orange lines). On-street parking is not available near the White House, and use of public transportation is strongly encouraged.

Restrooms/Public telephones

The nearest restrooms and public telephones to the White House are in the Ellipse Visitor Pavilion (the park area south of the White House) and in the White House Visitor Center. Restrooms or public telephones are not available at the White House.

Personal Tours of the White House

Certain exceptions can be made on occasion for constituent groups of **6 or fewer people**, by arranging for a personal tour by the Congressman's wife, Marilyn. These tours are only offered at 8:00 am, Tuesday through Friday. It should be noted, however, that these tours are available only when the schedule of the Congressman's wife permits. Inquiries regarding the availability of these tours can be made by contacting Brandon at (202) 225-4426 or brandon.renz@mail.house.gov.

Groups who are able to arrange for a tour with the Member's spouse must supply the full name, date of birth, Social Security number, and country of origin for each member of the group over 14 years of age. Attendees under the age of 14 need only submit their name and date of birth. Foreign visitors who may not have a social security number can substitute their passport number. In addition each group must submit a local phone number (i.e. cell phone or hotel) while they will have available during their visit in case of last minute changes or cancellations. This information must be submitted no later than 10 days prior to the requested tour date, but cannot be requested more than one month in advance.

Once all security information has been confirmed, the contact person will be notified. Groups are expected to meet Mrs. King at the Southeast corner of the White House, near the intersection of 15th and Pennsylvania Ave., Northwest, at 7:45 am on the scheduled date. Groups will be asked to wear some kind of identifiable clothing so Mrs. King is able to distinguish who is in her group.

All guests 15 years of age or older will be required to present photo identification with information exactly matching the name previously submitted for clearance. Individuals

whose identification does not exactly match the name or data cleared for entry may be denied admittance.

AS A GENERAL RULE: BRING NO PERSONAL ITEMS WHATSOEVER ON YOUR TOUR!! THIS INCLUDES PURSES, CAMERAS, LIQUIDS, OR OTHER ITEMS LISTED UNDER BULLET POINT 7 ABOVE!!

NOTE: Due to the high demand for White House tours and Marilyn's busy schedule, the availability of these tours remain limited. Additionally tours should not be considered reserved until the White House has confirmed the date, time, and security information.

Capitol Tour Information

There are two types of tours offered of the Capitol Building. Arrangements for both types of groups are made by contacting Brandon at (202) 225-4426 or brandon.renz@mail.house.gov.

Groups of 15 or fewer people can be given a tour of the Capitol by a member of the Congressman's staff. It is recommended reservations for these types of tours be made 2-4 weeks in advance. These tours last approximately 45-75 minutes. Strict security forbids visitors from carrying any sort of sharp or potentially dangerous item, any sort of liquid or liquid container, as well as any scented oils or lotions, makeup, or lip balm. Cameras and cellular phones are permitted throughout most of the tour, but can be checked before entering the House chamber.

Groups of 16 to 40 are arranged through our office and are conducted by the Capitol Guide Service. The information that must be submitted for the request to be processed is:

- 1) Name of Group
- 2) Number in Group
- 3) Group Contact person and contact information
- 4) Zip Code
- 5) Dates Requested

Strict security forbids visitors from carrying any sort of sharp or potentially dangerous item, any sort of liquid or liquid container, as well as any scented oils or lotions, makeup, or lip balm. Cameras and cellular phones are permitted throughout most of the tour.

Please keep in mind that these tours fill up months in advance, oftentimes within days of becoming available. Those groups who are unable to obtain a reservation can still attempt to participate in a public tour. These tours are offered Monday through Saturday, starting at 9:00 am, at the visitors kiosk located at the SW corner of the Capitol Building (near the intersection of First Street, S.W. and Independence Avenue). Since these tours are on a first-come-first-served basis, it is suggested groups arrive early. Those that are able to make a group reservation must report to the same kiosk location at the scheduled date and time.

Due to limited staff resources and strict security procedures, arranging for multiple tours of smaller groups through the Congressman's staff is not permitted.

Other Tour Information

Other types of tours that can be arranged through Congressman King's office include the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, National Archives, State Department, Library of Congress, and Supreme Court. It should be noted, however, that Congressional tours are oftentimes limited in number and on a limited schedule, meaning flexibility is quite restricted. As these particular tours are offered to the general public, it is recommended visitors make their own reservations, allowing them greater flexibility and the ability to make the reservations directly.

Again, by visiting the link located at <http://www.house.gov/house/Visitor.html>, visitors can explore a variety of options under the subtitle, "Touring D.C."